

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 1997 AT
1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Provost Robert Stirling, Councillors Gordon McCredie, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Douglas Reid, Ronald Brailsford, Alan Campbell, John Knapp, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, David Macrae, George Turnbull, Robert McDill, Jimmy Boyd, George Smith, Robert Taylor, John Smith, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; William Stafford, Director of Community Services; Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services; Gordon Clark, Director of finance; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Alex McPhee, Senior Depute Director of Finance; Chris McAleavey, Senior Depute Director of Housing; Tom McHugh, Depute Director of Finance; Roddy Wallace, Head of Administration; Kate McVey, Head of Legal Services; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; and Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Wilma Doyle, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Bob Beattie, Kim Nicoll, Eric Ross, Jim Kelly, David Sneller and Jimmy Carmichael.

CHAIR: Provost Robert Stirling, Chair.

**DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES -
BOOKS OF CONDOLENCE**

- 1, The Provost commented that this was the first opportunity that Members and Officers of East Ayrshire Council had all met together since the sudden death of Diana, Princess of Wales on 31 August 1997.

The Provost intimated that shortly after Diana's death, and to give local people focus for their grief and their remembrance, the Council had, in common with most Authorities, opened a number of Books of Condolence throughout the area. These books had been opened from 2 September onwards and finally closed last Thursday evening. He advised that special arrangements had been made to open the Dick Institute in Kilmarnock and the Registrars in Cumnock over the weekend of Diana's funeral to provide an increased opportunity for local people to enter their names and messages in the Books of Condolence.

The Provost quoted from a letter that he, along with the Chief Executive, had written to Princes William and Harry:

"We write on behalf of East Ayrshire Council, both elected members and employees, and on behalf of all of the people whom we serve, to convey our deep sadness regarding the tragic loss of your mother.

Some of use have had the privilege of meeting Princess Diana, all of us have been inspired by the example which se set in public service. The work which she carried out for a wide range of charities over the years will be long remembered. Often, she

would be among the first to recognise the worth of a charitable cause and to strive to generate the wider community support which it merited.

In East Ayrshire, Princess Diana's memory will be cherished. Her good works will continue to be recognised. Her good causes will continue to be supported. Her personal warmth and openness in meeting people, particularly in encouraging those in adversity, will never be forgotten.

Our thoughts are very much with you and with your mother's wider family at this time of grief.

Please accept heartfelt condolences from East Ayrshire".

The Provost intimated that it was his intention to write to Buckingham Palace again to outline the arrangements that the Council had made to open the Books of Condolence and also advise that the Books would be held in safekeeping and that appropriate arrangements would be made for continued public access.

The Provost then handed the Books of Condolence to Councillor John Smith, Vice-Chair of the Community Services Committee.

Councillor John Smith thanked the Provost and intimated that the Community Services Department would now make arrangements to have the pages permanently bound and suitably inscribed. Councillor Smith confirmed that the Books of Condolence would be kept within the Museum Archive at the Dick Institute in Kilmarnock with public access being provided.

Following a request from the Provost, Members, Officers and members of the public stood in silence while the Books of Condolence were taken from the Council Chambers as a symbol of remembrance.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

2. There were submitted (circulated) Minutes of Council held on 19 June 1997 which were approved as a correct record.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

3. There were submitted (circulated) and approved, subject to the following amendments, both as correct records and in respect of recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of the undernoted Committee meetings as follows, viz:-
 - 3.1.1 **CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 11 JUNE 1997 (pages 2243 - 2248).**
 - 3.1.2 **DOON VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 11 JUNE 1997 (pages 2249 - 2252).**
 - 3.1.3 **KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 12 JUNE 1997 (pages 2253 - 2256).**
 - 3.1.4 **SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 17 JUNE 1997 (pages 2257 - 2259).**
 - 3.1.5 **KILMARNOCK CENTRAL LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 17 JUNE 1997 (pages 2260 - 2264).**
 - 3.1.6 **IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 18 JUNE 1997 (pages 2265 - 2273).**
 - 3.1.7 **SPECIAL KILMARNOCK SOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 19 JUNE 1997 (pages 2283 - 2286).**

- 3.1.8 SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES OF 23 JUNE 1997 (pages 2287 - 2290).**
- 3.1.9 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 24 JUNE 1997 (pages 2291).**
- 3.1.10 SPECIAL NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 25 JUNE 1997 (pages 2292 - 2296).**
- 3.1.11 SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 1 JULY 1997 (pages 2297 - 2298).**
- 3.1.12 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 15 JULY 1997 (pages 2299 - 2300).**
- 3.1.13 SPECIAL CENTRAL LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 22 JULY 1997 (pages 2301-2304).**
- 3.1.14 SPECIAL NORTHERN AREA LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 28 JULY 1997 (pages 2305-2315).**
- 3.1.15 SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE OF 29 JULY 1997 (pages 2316-2335).**
- 3.1.16 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 31 JULY 1997 (pages 2336-2337).**
- 3.1.17 SPECIAL SOUTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 5 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2338-2344).**
- 3.1.18 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 12 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2345-2346).**
- 3.1.19 SPECIAL NORTHERN AREA LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 13 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2347-2348).**
- 3.1.20 NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 19 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2349-2351).**
- 3.1.21 KILMARNOCK SOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE OF 20 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2352-2353).**
- 3.1.22 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 21 AUGUST 1997 (page 2354).**
- 3.1.23 SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE OF 22 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2355-2368).**
- (i) REMIT FROM COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Item 3, Page 2356) -** It was agreed that Archie Henderson, Area Manager for the Church of Scotland, be appointed representative to the Advisory Committee following resignation of the Rev David Lacey and noted that no further appointments would be made to fill any existing vacancies until the Advisory Committee had concluded its review of the method for appointing further members to the Advisory Committee.
- 3.1.24 CENTRAL LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 22 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2369-2371).**
- 3.1.25 HOUSING COMMITTEE OF 27 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2372-2382).**
- 3.1.26 EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF 28 AUGUST 1997 (pages 2383-2403).**
- (i) SURPLUS PROPERTY - FORMER TECHNICAL BUILDING WORKSHOP AND HUTTED ACCOMMODATION AT KILMARNOCK ACADEMY (Item 3.1, Page 2402)**

A motion by Councillor McCredie, seconded by Councillor Reid, to reconsider the decision to declare the above property surplus to the requirements of the Department

of Education in order that the Department of Education could consider the use of these premises for a café/drop-in centre for young people was, on a division by a show of hands, defeated by 14 votes to 6 and failed to receive the requisite two-thirds of the Members voting.

3.1.27 NORTHERN AREA LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 29 AUGUST 1997 (page 2404).

3.1.28 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2405-2422).

(i) APPENDIX III - LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF 26 AUGUST 1997 - MUSEUM AND ARTS ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL POLICY (Item 5, Page 2419) - It was agreed to continue consideration of the proposed Museum and Arts Acquisition and Disposal Policy to the next meeting of the Council on 6 November 1997 in order that the Policy document could be circulated to Members.

(ii) APPENDIX III - LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF 26 AUGUST 1997 - GOLF COURSES - DRESS CODE FOR PLAYERS (Item 11, Page 2420) - It was noted that the report on this issue would be submitted to a future meeting of the Leisure Sub-Committee for consideration.

(iii) REMIT FROM COMMITTEE - ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM (Item 8, Page 2407) - It was agreed that Councillors McCredie, Cree, Brailsford, Darnbrough and Taylor be appointed to serve on the Environmental Forum, in addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Community Services Committee.

3.1.29 COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF 4 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2423-2424)

3.1.30 SPECIAL NORTHERN LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE OF 4 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2426-2427).

3.1.31 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE OF 9 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2428-2442).

(i) HM PRISON, BOWHOUSE, KILMARNOCK - LIAISON COMMITTEE (Item 6, Page 2431) - It was agreed that the Director of Development Services would, in respect of the community of Fiveways, which was situated outwith East Ayrshire, send a copy of the Minutes of the Liaison Committee to South Ayrshire Council for appropriate action in order that the residents of that community could be kept informed.

3.1.32 EMERGENCY POWERS COMMITTEE OF 10 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2443).

3.1.33 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 10 SEPTEMBER 1997 (pages 2444-2485).

(i) FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE (Item 4, Page 2446) - Agreed that the Minutes should read as follows:

- ***(i)** to recommend to Council adoption of the annuity method of debt charging from 1 April 1996 as detailed within the report;

- (ii) to recommend to Council that Departments' base budgets for 1997/98 be adjusted by the amounts indicated in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Section B of the report".
- (ii) **ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES (Item 8, Page 2447) AND SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES (Item 9, Page 2448)** - A motion by Councillor Coffey, seconded by Councillor Reid, to reconsider in terms of Standing Order 51 the decisions regarding increases in Members' basic allowances, subsistence rates and special responsibility allowances, and an addition to the Scheme of Members' Allowances in respect of a further special responsibility allowances was, on a division by a show of hands, defeated by 14 votes to 6 and so failed to receive the requisite two-thirds of the Members voting.

EAST AYRSHIRE ACCIDENT PREVENTION COMMITTEE

- 4. There were submitted and noted Minutes of Meeting held on 9 September 1997 (circulated) as shown in the Appendix to these Minutes.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 1995/96 FROM FORMER DISTRICT COUNCILS

- 5. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Finance presenting to the Council the audited Accounts 1995/96 for the former Cumnock and Doon Valley District Council together with the external Auditor's report on the Audit for the year ended 31 March 1996, and to report a delay in the receipt of audit accounts from Price Waterhouse of the former Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the annual accounts 1995/96 for the former Cumnock and Doon Valley District Council;
- (ii) that Directors ensure that the issues raised by the auditors as detailed within their report be addressed as soon as possible; and
- (iii) that there be a charge of £5 per copy for the purchase of the Annual Report.

BEST VALUE REGIME SUBMISSION (Item 19, Page 2451)

- 6. There was submitted a report dated 18 September 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services enclosing for discussion and approval the Council's draft Best Value Regime submission.

It was agreed to approve the draft submission enclosed with the Director of Support Services' report subject to the inclusion of a Bibliography of evidence as an appendix, for submission to the Scottish Office.

CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP - COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE; COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE; AND LEISURE SUB-COMMITTEE

- 7. It was agreed to approve the proposal that Councillor Ronald Brailsford replace Councillor Kim Nicoll on the Community Services Committee and the Leisure Sub-Committee and that Councillor Kim Nicoll replace Councillor Brailsford on the Commercial Operations Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1104 hrs.

